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School of Diplomacy and International Relations

Spring 2015

Statecraft: Designing Foreign Policy

Edislav Manetovic
Seton Hall University

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Manetovic, Edislav, "Statecraft: Designing Foreign Policy" (2015). *Diplomacy Syllabi*. 154.
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**SCHOOL OF DIPLOMACY AND INTERNATIONAL RELATIONS
SETON HALL UNIVERSITY**

Statecraft: Designing Foreign Policy

DIPL 6181 NA

TU 2:00 – 4:10

Spring 2015

Instructor: Edislav Manetovic
Office hours: Tuesdays 1:00-1:50 and by appointment
Office: McQuaid Hall, Room 109
Office Tel.: 973-275-2969 (Susan Malcolm, Secretary)
Cell: 347-635-9876 (please do not call before 10 am or after 10 pm)
E-mail edislav.manetovic@shu.edu

Course Description and Content

This course is devoted to examining statecraft: the design of strategies to achieve foreign policy goals; the choice of policy instruments within these strategies; and an assessment of their relative utility in achieving national aims. The course is designed to introduce you to the subject-matter and to help you design a foreign policy strategy for a designated country.

Throughout the semester you will *simultaneously* have to (1) read the assigned texts, (2) conduct research on foreign (and domestic) policy of an assigned state, and (3) gradually design a viable cost-effective strategy. In order to accomplish the task of designing a strategy we will devote the first part of each class to analyzing the assigned texts. The second part of the class will be devoted to applying what we learned in that class to your concrete case. Thus, you will not only have to *closely* read the assigned texts before each class but you will also have to know whether a specific goal is desirable/viable and whether a specific foreign policy tool is available and useful for achieving your country's specific goal(s). I will assess your progress weekly because each week at least 30% of students will discuss their work, accomplishments as well as challenges.

We will closely read two books. Terry Deibel's book offers a blueprint for crafting foreign policy. It focuses on US foreign policy but the author's model is applicable to other countries as well. Vijay Prashad's study analyzes the Global South's post-World War II development strategies. It introduces the reader to South's continuing attempts to make the global economic system more equitable and offers an explanation of the rise of the liberal international order.

This course is designed to *combine absorbing and applying knowledge*. It is not too heavy on required readings because I expect you to think creatively and to *conduct research on your assigned case study from week three (1/27)*.

Throughout the course we will try to link the readings with contemporary events. Hence, students should keep informed about relevant current events by regularly following news. IPS News Agency (www.ipsnews.net) has very good coverage of the Global South. English language newspapers like *The New York Times*, *Washington Post*, *Guardian* provide good coverage of international news. *Guardian* is a very good British newspaper and you can follow it for free at: <http://www.theguardian.com>. You may also want to watch news on the web or TV. BBC (UK), CNN International (USA), Al Jazeera (Qatar), CCTV (China), and Russia Today, provide good insight into current events. You will get a better insight if you follow news from different countries.

Assignments and Grading Rules

1. Midterm exam. Use of books and notes will be prohibited.
2. Policy paper. Two students will form a working group. The group will write a 20 page foreign policy strategy of a designated country and present their research to the class. Each group is required to post an outline (max 2 pages) of their final presentation on Blackboard 5 days before the presentation. Policy papers are due on the last day of the semester.

Case studies must be chosen in consultation with the instructor by January 20, so it behooves all of you to begin thinking about the country you want to research as soon as we finish the first class.

The paper must include, at minimum, the following sections:

- Two major foreign policy objectives;
- The international strategic environment as it relates to your country's objectives;
- The regional strategic environment as it relates to your country's objectives;
- The domestic context for strategy;
- Foreign policy instruments to be used;
- Possible restraints;
- Linking ends and means.

Use a wide variety of primary and secondary sources. Include proper citation of sources and a complete bibliography. You may use any standard citation format but you must use it consistently.

- 3) Class participation and attendance. All students are expected to do the reading in advance and to take part in the discussion. The quality of class sessions is greatly enhanced when students are prepared to engage the course material in a constructive fashion. Participation will be noted and credited to your grade.

Poor attendance (two absences) will result in a reduction of your grade. Each absence, beyond the two excused, will reduce your final grade by 2%.

Basis for Grade

Midterm exam	30%
Policy paper presentation	15%
Policy paper.....	35%
Class participation.....	20%

Course Materials

Terry L. Deibel, *Foreign Affairs Strategy: Logic for American Statecraft* (Cambridge: Cambridge UP, 2007).

Vijay Prashad, *The Poorer Nations: A Possible History of the Global South* (London: Verso, 2012).

Reading Package

Recommended Readings

Daniel Drezner (ed.), *Avoiding Trivia: The Role of Strategic Planning in American Foreign Policy* (Washington: Brookings Institution Press, 2009).

Klaus Dodds, *Geopolitics: A Very Short Introduction* (Oxford: Oxford UP, 2007).

Paul Gordon Lauren, Gordon Craig, Alexander George, *Force and Statecraft: Diplomatic Problems of Our Time* (Oxford: Oxford UP, 2007).

Politics (2010) Special Issue – Perspectives on the Changing Global Distribution of Power

Academic and Professional Integrity

All forms of dishonesty, whether by act or omission, including, but not limited to, cheating, plagiarism and knowingly furnishing false information, are prohibited. Work submitted in the course must be the product of the efforts of the student presenting the work. Contributions of others to the finished work must be appropriately acknowledged.

Disability Services

If you have a documented disability you may be eligible for accommodations, in academic classes, the residence halls, food services areas, etc., under the Americans with Disabilities Act and Section 504 of the Rehabilitation Act. Students are not permitted to negotiate accommodations directly with professors. To receive accommodations or assistance, please self-identify at the Office of Disability Support Services (DSS), Duffy Hall, Room 67. The staff at DSS will help you to develop a plan for accommodations. For more information contact DSS at (973) 313-6003.

Topics and Readings

- 1/13 *Introduction*
Class participant introductions, course outline, expectations for class assignments, questions.
- 1/20 *Strategy*
Deibel, “Defining Strategy,” Chapter 1
Recommended
Daniel Drezner, “The Challenging Future of Strategic Planning in Foreign Policy,” in Daniel Drezner (ed), *Avoiding Trivia: The Role of Strategic Planning in American Foreign Policy*, Brookings Institution Press, 2009.
Stephen Walt, “Where Do Bad Ideas Come From?” *Foreign Policy*, January/February 2011
Stephen Krasner, “The Garbage Can Framework for Locating Policy Planning,” in Daniel Drezner (ed), *Avoiding Trivia: The Role of Strategic Planning in American Foreign Policy*, Brookings Institution Press, 2009.

Forming working groups and assigning case studies (countries)

- 1/27 *Assessing*
Deibel, “The International Strategic Environment,” Chapter 2
Deibel, “The Domestic Context for Strategy,” Chapter 3
Recommended
Richard Betts, “Conflict or Cooperation,” *Foreign Affairs*, Nov/Dec 2010.
Mr. Y, “A National Strategic Narrative,” Woodrow Wilson Center, 2011.
Piers Robinson, “The role of media and public opinion,” in Steve Smith et. al. (eds.), *Foreign Policy* (Oxford: Oxford UP, 2008).

- 2/3 *Assessing*
Mearsheimer, John “Can China Rise Peacefully?” 25 October 2014, www.nationalinterest.org/commentary/can-china-rise-peacefully-10204
Mearsheimer, John “Why the Ukraine Crisis is the West’s Fault,” *Foreign Affairs*, 93.5 (2014).

Question:

What is your country’s strategic environment?

- 2/10 *Analyzing*
 Deibel, “Interests, Threats, and Opportunities,” Chapter 4
 Deibel, “Power and Influence,” Chapter 5
- Prepare answers to the following questions:
 What are your country’s objectives?
 Justify your objectives.
 List your objectives in order of priority.
 Justify your ordering.
- 2/17 *Analyzing*
 Prashad Introduction and chapters 1 and 2
 Recommended
 National Intelligence Council, *Global Trends 2030: Alternative Worlds*,
 2012.
- 2/24 *Planning: Instruments of State Power*
 Deibel, Chapter 6
 Recommended
 Ben Mor, “Public Diplomacy in Grand Strategy,” *Foreign Policy Analysis*,
 Vol. 2, Issue 2, 2006.
 Daniel Schulman, “Mind Games,” *Columbia Journalism Review*,
 May/June 2006.
 David Baldwin, *Economic Statecraft*, Princeton UP, 1985 (chapters 3 & 4)
 Michael Mastanduno, “Economics and Security in Statecraft and
 Scholarship,” *International Organization*, Autumn 1998.
- Prepare answers to the following questions:
 What instruments will you use to achieve your objectives? Why those?
 How will you use those instruments?
- 3/3 Midterm Exam
- 3/10 Spring Break – No classes
- 3/17 *BRICS*
 Prashad chapter 3

3/24	<p><i>Linking it all together</i> Deibel, "Linking Ends and Means," Chapter 7</p> <p><u>Prepare answers to the following questions:</u> How will your action affect the target(s)? Can you envision a different affect? How will your target(s) react? Why do you think that? On what basis did you make your judgment?</p>
3/31	<p><i>Evaluating</i> Deibel, "Evaluating Courses of Action," Chapter 8 Deibel, "Conclusion," Chapter 9</p> <p><u>Prepare answers to the following questions:</u> Make a cost-benefit analysis of your strategy. Is it worth the costs? What if things do not go as you planned? How costly will failure of your strategy be?</p>
4/7	Presentations
4/14	Presentations
4/21	Presentations
4/28	Last Class Presentations Papers due
5/6-12	Final Examinations